



October 2021

Student Voting Rates for George Mason University

2020 NSLVE Campus Report

October 2021

Dear Colleagues:

We are pleased to send this tailored report containing your students' voting rates for 2020. This report contains three years of relevant topline data: 2016, 2018, and 2020. As always, we disaggregate the data so you can better identify and address gaps in participation.

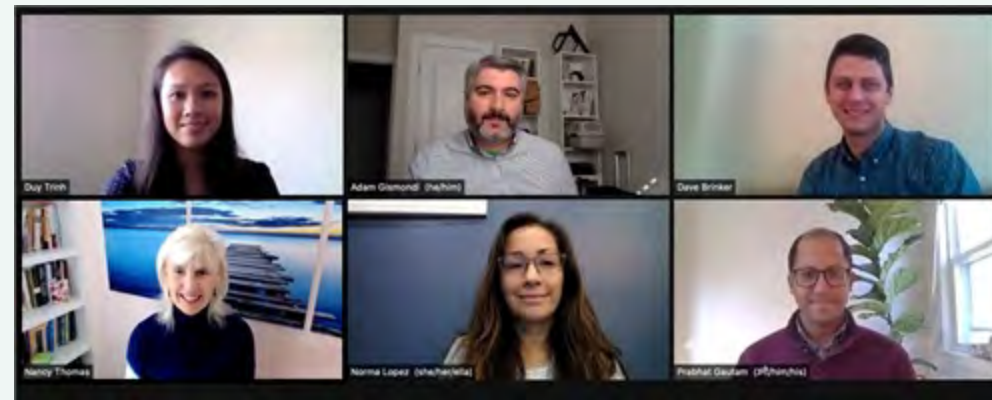
College and university students participated in record-breaking numbers in the 2020 election. In 2016, the Average Institutional Voting Rate was 53%. This year, it jumped to 66%. We encourage you to review Democracy Counts 2020, our most recent national report.

As in past years, we urge you to share this report widely and strategically, particularly with faculty who, in 2020, were often the most consistent communicators with students about ever-changing voting conditions and deadlines. We also urge you to review our recommendations for engaging elections to cultivate a robust and healthy campus climate for political engagement, discourse, equity, and participation: Election Imperatives (2019) and the more recent Election Imperatives: A Time of Physical Distancing and Social Action. Since "pervasive political discussions" and attentiveness to the campus culture around speech and academic freedom are among our top recommendations, we direct you to our discussion guides on talking about your NSLVE report, on free speech and inclusion, and on hot topics, our Making Sense of ... guides.

Finally, we always encourage you to work with us. Help us help you get better data by reaching out. Email IDHE@Tufts.edu for more information. And as always, watch your inbox for our periodic newsletter, IDHE Update, for announcements about upcoming releases and new resources.

Congratulations on engaging your students in the 2020 election. Remember, student political learning is a year-round objective. Elections may be episodic, but student political engagement should not be.

All the Best,
IDHE Team



(Top Row from left) Duy Trinh, Program Administrator; Adam Gismondi, Director of Impact; Dave Brinker, Senior Researcher;
(Bottom Row from left) Nancy Thomas, Director; Norma López, Postdoctoral Scholar; Prabhat Gautam, Data Manager.

We also want to acknowledge and thank **Syed Golam Mohaimen, M.S. student in Data Science at Tufts University** for his contributions toward the creation of these reports.

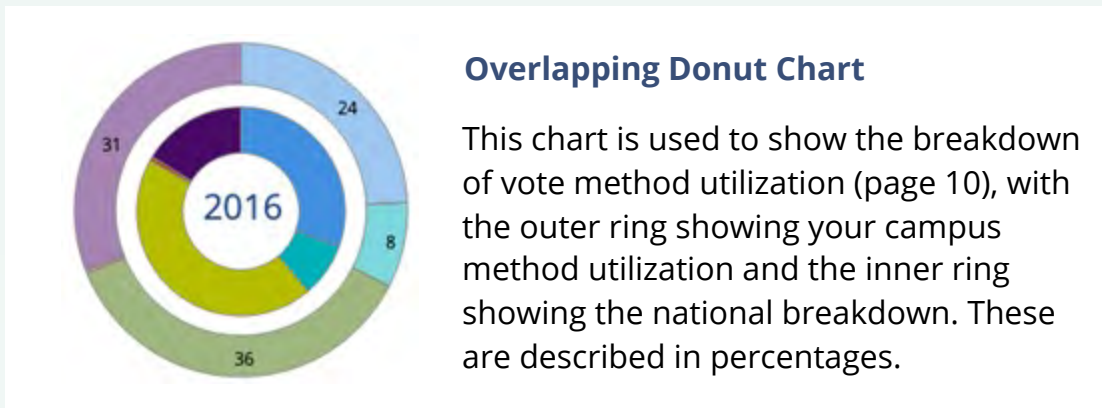
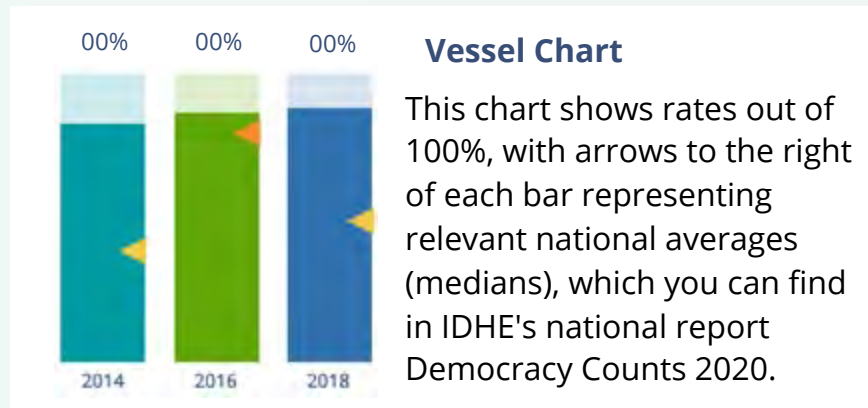
In This Report

This report presents data on student voter participation rates for your campus. The topline counts on page 5 tells you how many students voted, but we encourage you to look carefully at the data on subsequent pages to learn who voted. Data are presented in the form of vessel charts, overlapping donut charts, and tables.

	2014			2018			2014-2018
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p.)
Asian	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Indian/ Alaska Native	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hispanic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Tables

The tables show, on the left-side columns, the numbers of students and the rates from 2016, 2018, and 2020. On the left-side, percentage point (p.p.) changes between 2016 and 2020. A red down arrow indicates a decrease, a green up arrow indicates an increase, and a yellow arrow pointing to the right indicates no change. "-" in these tables indicates that the data is unavailable/missing, or is available for 10 or less students.



Voting, Registration and Yield Rates

YOUR INSTITUTION

71.8%

2020 Voting Rate

+5.6

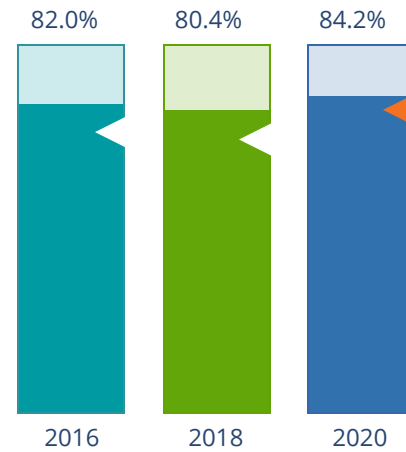
Change From 2016

ALL INSTITUTIONS

66%

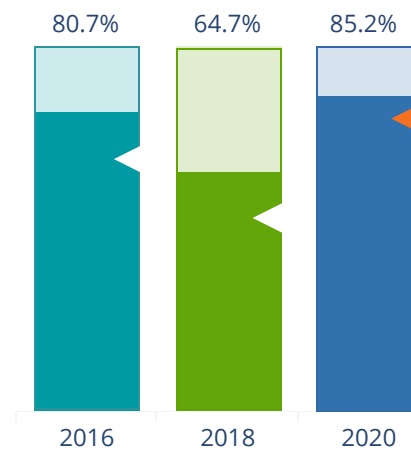
2020 Voting Rate

REGISTRATION RATE



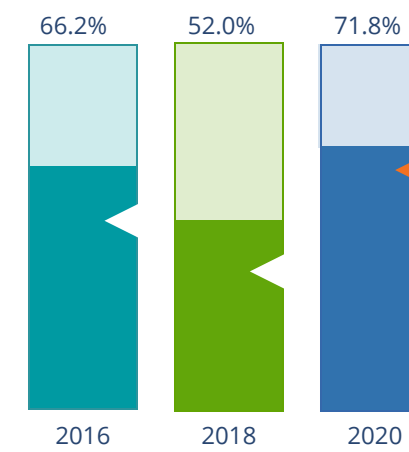
The **Registration Rate** is the percent of your voting-eligible students who registered to vote.

VOTING RATE OF REGISTERED STUDENTS



The **Voting Rate of Registered Students** is the percent of registered students who voted on Election Day. We often refer to this as the “yield” rate.

VOTING RATE



The **Voting Rate** is the percentage of eligible students who voted on Election Day. The voting rate is also the product of the registration and yield rates.

Looking Closer

Voting and Registration Rates

	2016	2018	2020	2016-2020 Change (p.p.)
Total Student Enrollment	35,412	37,928	39,150	↑ 3,737
(Age under 18/Unknown)	-	-	-	-
(IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens)	2,872	3,227	2,811	↓ -61
(FERPA records blocked)	17	18	17	→ 0
(Non-Degree Seeking Students)	2,110	2,794	2,694	↑ 584
Total eligible voters	30,412	31,885	33,625	↑ 3,213
Number of students who registered	24,937	25,628	28,329	↑ 3,392
Number of students who voted	20,134	16,587	24,149	↑ 4,015
Registration Rate %	82	80	84	↑ 2
Voting Rate of Registered Students %	81	65	85	↑ 5
Voting Rate %	66	52	72	↑ 6

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate your voting, registration, and yield rates. The sub-categories under total student enrollment are the adjustments that we make to account for students who are ineligible to vote due to age or citizenship status. We also exclude, when correctly flagged, students who are not pursuing degrees.

We use IPEDS-derived estimates of NRAs when institutions do not submit non-resident alien status data to NSC, or we cannot verify the accuracy of the reported counts. This estimate is given by "IPEDS estimated non-resident aliens" on this page. If you believe the number of international students reported on this report is incorrect, you can manually adjust your institution's voting rates by using our recalculation tool. <https://id-he.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-recalculation-tool>.

By Institution Types

2016 Voting Rate for All Institutions

53%

HIGH
82%

LOW
13%

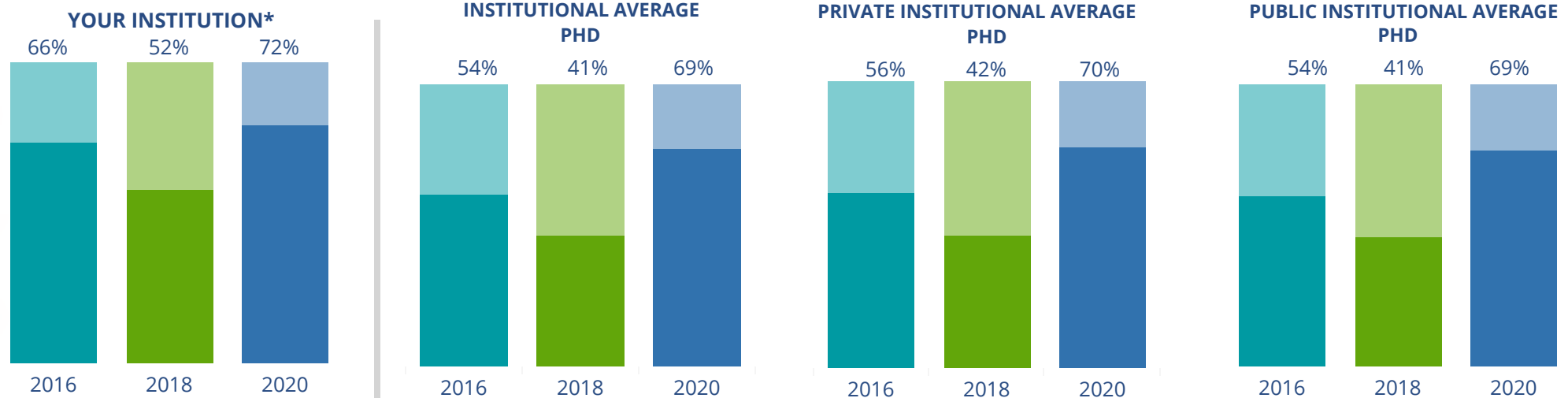
2020 Voting Rate for All Institutions

66%

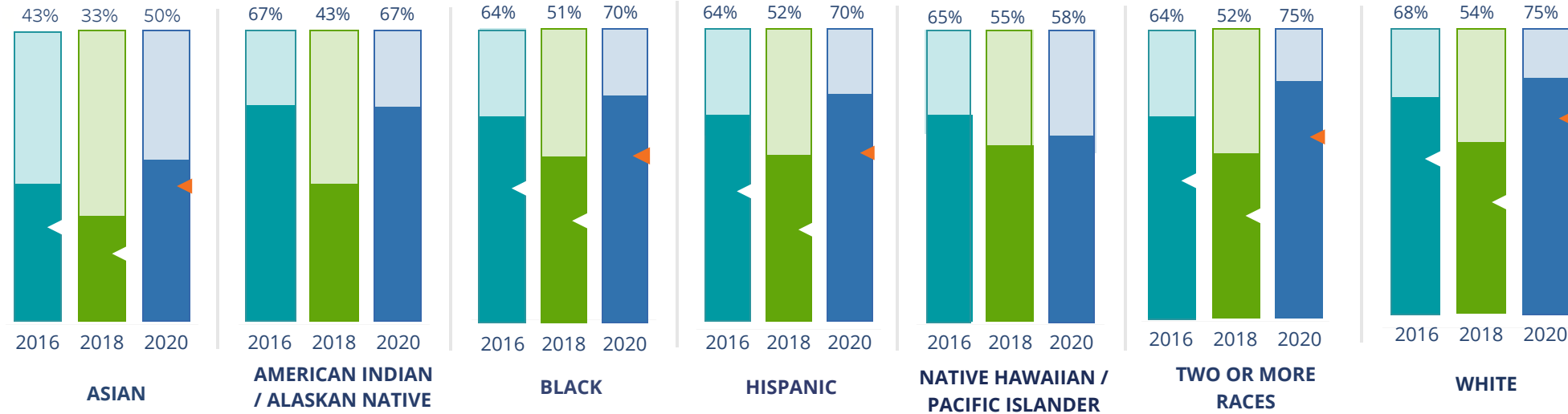
HIGH
89%

LOW
19%

These are estimated voting rates of your institution compared to the average voting rates of similar institutions in NSLVE. *"Your Institution" chart is presented at a different scale.



By Race / Ethnicity



These are estimated voting rates for race / ethnicity groups. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following race reporting procedures* defined by the National Center for Education Statistics of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Please see our FAQ for more detail on why we cannot report national benchmark for some of the demographic groups:

<https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq>

If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

* <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/report-your-data/race-ethnicity-collecting-data-for-reporting-purposes>

Looking Closer

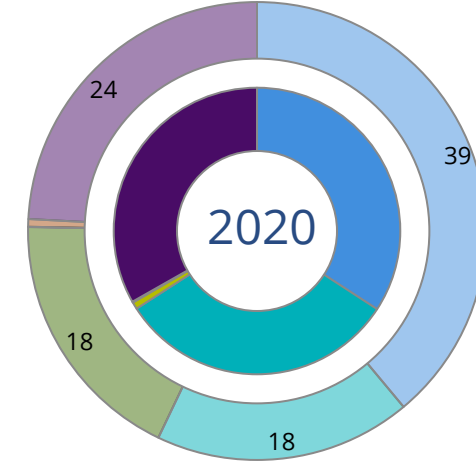
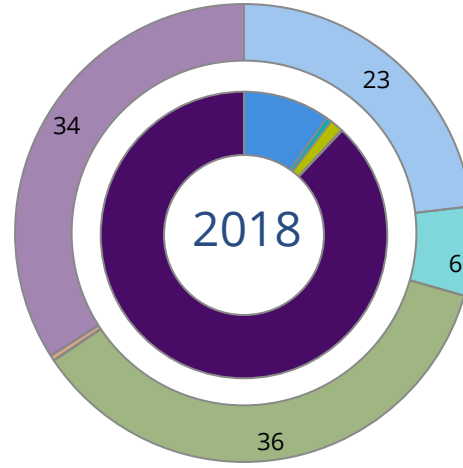
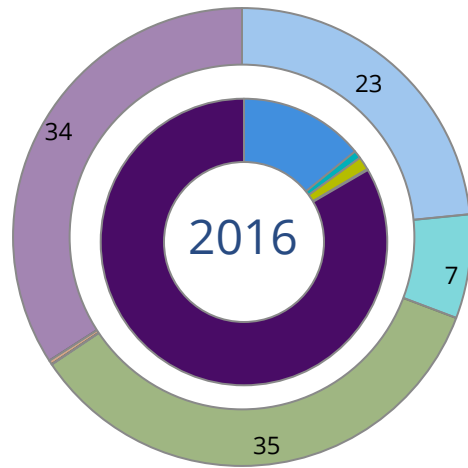
By Race/Ethnicity

This page provides the numbers we used to calculate race / ethnicity group voting rates. We include the counts of students and the change in rates between the two most recent comparable election years. If you notice unavailable/missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Asian	6,873	2,936	43	7,790	2,559	33	8,541	4,281	50	↑ 7
American Indian/ Alaska Native	55	37	67	42	18	43	45	30	67	↓ -1
Black	3,485	2,212	63	3,775	1,929	51	4,043	2,832	70	↑ 7
Hispanic	4,072	2,610	64	4,791	2,466	51	5,397	3,795	70	↑ 6
Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	122	79	65	76	42	55	55	32	58	↓ -7
2 or More Races	1,299	825	64	1,478	768	52	1,537	1,151	75	↑ 11
White	15,653	10,705	68	15,319	8,295	54	14,704	10,986	75	↑ 6
Race Unknown	1,544	730	47	1,592	510	32	1,911	1,042	55	↑ 7

By Voting Method

■ Not-In-Person
 ■ Early Vote
 ■ In-Person
 ■ Other
 ■ Provisional
 ■ Unknown



	2016		2018		2020		2016-2020	
	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p.)	
Early Vote	175	1	97	1	7,653	32	31	↑
In-Person on Election Day	294	2	243	2	197	1	-1	↓
Not-In-Person	2,845	14	1,625	10	8,264	34	20	↑
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Provisional	13	0	-	-	35	0	0	→
Voting Method Unknown	16,807	83	14,612	88	8,000	33	-50	↓

These are estimated rates for vote method utilization, the number of students utilizing each method, and the percent of students utilizing each method. Not all U.S. states provide information on vote method; voting method for voter files from these states are classified "Voting Method Unknown." For a list of these states, see our FAQ. <https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve/nslve-faq#CampusReports>

By Age Group

	2016	2018	2020
18-21	60%	44%	69%
22-24	58%	46%	66%
25-29	59%	47%	61%
30-39	62%	52%	63%
40-49	72%	64%	74%
50+	85%	75%	83%

Voting is habit-forming and young voters will usually continue as voters in subsequent elections.

Also, young voters are more likely to be contacted by campaigns and are visible, and therefore significant, to elected officials. While in the past, we have seen voting rates increase across age groups, in recent cycles, the most significant increases have been among first-time and the youngest voters. Some colleges serve primarily young students, traditionally viewed as students in the 18-21 or 22-24 categories here. Others have much higher numbers of enrolled older undergraduate or graduate students.

Looking Closer

By Age Group

Here, we provide the numbers of students in each age category and the voting rates for each group. These are based on the student's age on the day of the election, as calculated by the National Student Clearinghouse using data from student enrollment records.

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
18-21	13,247	7,901	60	14,668	6,510	44	15,317	10,601	69	↑ 10
22-24	7,107	4,117	58	8,043	3,709	46	8,717	5,710	66	↑ 8
25-29	5,800	3,424	59	5,769	2,691	47	5,917	3,583	61	↑ 2
30-39	4,392	2,740	62	4,026	2,080	52	4,061	2,547	63	↑ 0
40-49	1,618	1,157	72	1,543	988	64	1,450	1,070	74	↑ 2
50+	939	795	85	814	609	75	771	638	83	↓ -2

Looking Closer

By Sex

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)
Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

These are estimated voting rates for sex groups and the numbers we used to calculate their voting rates. These classifications are provided by campuses and are obtained following the reporting procedures defined by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). Presently, NCES requires institutions to report students as “Male” or “Female” only.*

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

*<https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/ipeds/public/survey-materials/faq?faqid=11>

Looking Closer

By Education Level / Undergraduate Class Year

	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Enrolled	Voted	Rate (%)	Change (p.p)	
EDUCATION LEVEL											
Undergraduate	23,257	13,882	60	25,713	11,724	46	26,680	17,853	67	↑	7
Graduate	9,822	6,239	64	9,147	4,862	53	9,548	6,294	66	↑	2
Class Unknown	24	13	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLASS YEAR											
First Year	4,306	54	2,319	4,676	39	1,833	4,514	63	2,834	↑	9
Second Year	4,381	57	2,512	5,030	42	2,114	4,994	66	3,317	↑	9
Upper Level	14,585	62	9,058	15,972	49	7,763	17,172	68	11,701	↑	6
ENROLLMENT STATUS											
Full-time	23,179	13,449	58	25,546	11,291	44	26,090	16,914	65	↑	7
Part-time	9,924	6,685	67	9,317	5,296	57	10,143	7,235	71	↑	4

These are estimated voting rates by Education Level (undergraduate/graduate), Class Year, and Enrollment Status (full-time/part-time), and the numbers we used to calculate these rates.

If you notice missing data in this page, it could mean any of the following for your institution: (i) does not report this data; (ii) did not provide this data in past years; (iii) does not separately submit data for one or more of the demographic groups, or (iv) the data is reported for 10 or fewer students.

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020	
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Change (p.p)	
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, and Gender Studies	39	26	67	33	22	67	17	11	65	↓	-2
Biological and Biomedical Sciences	1,830	1,072	59	1,940	869	45	2,047	1,364	67	↑	8
Business, Management, and Marketing	4,617	2,446	53	5,047	1,958	39	5,210	3,118	60	↑	7
Communication and Journalism	-	-	-	-	-	-	608	467	77		-
Communications Technologies/Technicians	277	172	62	337	146	43	392	273	70	↑	8
Computer and Information Sciences	3,538	1,901	54	4,107	1,701	41	4,775	2,838	59	↑	6
Education	2,717	1,961	72	2,184	1,336	61	2,017	1,517	75	↑	3

These are estimated voting rates by field of study, and the numbers we used to calculate the field of study rates. For an explanation of CIP codes, please see our FAQ.* There are roughly 8,000 fields of study among U.S. colleges and universities, so we provide rates for condensed categories.

*<https://tufts.app.box.com/v/idhe-nslve-report-faq>

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Engineering and Engineering Technologies	2,025	1,003	50	2,134	840	39	2,049	1,234	60	↑ 11
English Language and Literature	1,390	996	72	1,301	804	62	564	459	81	↑ 10
Family and Consumer/Human Sciences	35	25	71	68	32	47	78	58	74	↑ 3
Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Lingui..	150	101	67	112	60	54	137	93	68	↑ 1
Health Professions	2,297	1,476	64	2,451	1,232	50	2,690	1,884	70	↑ 6
History	408	325	80	432	283	66	432	337	78	↓ -2
Law Enforcement, Firefighting, and Protec..	1,739	1,123	65	2,136	985	46	2,308	1,656	72	↑ 7
Legal Professions and Studies	540	338	63	594	279	47	592	355	60	↓ -3
Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Humanities	2,524	1,533	61	2,860	1,335	47	2,628	1,770	67	↑ 7
Mathematics and Statistics	308	179	58	344	147	43	343	209	61	↑ 3
Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies	883	581	66	912	480	53	942	599	64	↓ -2
Natural Resources and Conservation	261	175	67	268	155	58	298	233	78	↑ 11
Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Stu..	285	168	59	379	154	41	412	275	67	↑ 8
Philosophy and Religious Studies	73	43	59	70	35	50	66	43	65	↑ 6

By Field of Study

FIELDS	2016			2018			2020			2016-2020 Change (p.p)
	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	Enrolled	Voted	Rate	
Physical Sciences	582	337	58	560	276	49	612	415	68	↑ 10
Psychology	1,336	836	63	1,465	719	49	1,716	1,203	70	↑ 8
Public Administration and Social Service Professions	1,100	784	71	1,023	671	66	1,197	923	77	↑ 6
Social Sciences	2,779	1,625	58	2,749	1,371	50	2,756	1,817	66	↑ 7
Visual and Performing Arts	1,287	875	68	1,326	687	52	1,319	988	75	↑ 7
Unknown	83	33	40	31	-	-	28	-	-	-

About This Report

Thank you for participating in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement.

Since NSLVE's launch in 2013, nearly 1,200 colleges and universities have signed up to receive their voting rates for the 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2020 federal elections.

Along with others, your institution's participation in this study has allowed us to build a robust database of over 50 million college student records, about 10 million for each election year, that serve as a foundation for innovative research on college student political learning and engagement in democracy.

NSLVE is a signature initiative of the Institute for Democracy and Higher Education (IDHE) at Tufts University's Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life. The mission of IDHE is to shift college and university priorities and culture to advance political learning, agency, and equity. We achieve our mission through research, resource development, technical assistance, and advocacy.

About the Data

The voter registration and voting rates in this report reflect the percentage of your institution's students who were eligible to vote and who actually voted in the 2016, 2018, and 2020 elections.

These results are based on enrollment records your institution submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC) and publicly available voting files collected by L2 Political.

Enrollment lists are adjusted by deducting students under age 18 (at the time of the election), people identified as non-degree seeking and those identified by campuses as "nonresident aliens" (NRAs) (the federal government's category for mostly international students). Unfortunately, not all campuses report NRAs to NSC. For those campuses, we use IPEDS to calculate the number of NRA students on each campus and adjust NSC enrollment numbers to estimate the number of students to remove. We also quality check NRA removals by verifying that there is little to no discrepancy between the number of international students reported by the campus to IPEDS and to NSC. We cannot adjust subgroup analyses absent identification of NRAs verified by the process above. We welcome closer partnerships with individual colleges and universities to provide more accurate rates. For more on the data and the matching process, see our FAQ on Campus Reports.

George Mason University

Thank you for the work you do to improve your students' political learning and engagement. We hope that you find your NSLVE report useful. For up-to-date news on NSLVE data, resources, and to sign up for our newsletter visit: <https://idhe.tufts.edu>.

References: IDHE encourages report recipients to share this report as broadly as possible, including posting it on the college or university's website. When doing so, please use the following citation: Institute for Democracy & Higher Education: National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement. (2021). 2016, 2018, and 2020 report for _____ [name of institution]. Medford, MA.



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